

# VICTORIAN ENTOMOLOGIST



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*News Bulletin of The Entomological Society of Victoria Inc.*

THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA (Inc)

## MEMBERSHIP

Any person with an interest in entomology shall be eligible for Ordinary membership. Members of the Society include professional, amateur and student entomologists, all of whom receive the Society's News Bulletin, the Victorian Entomologist.

## OBJECTIVES

The aims of the Society are:

- (a) to stimulate the scientific study and discussion of all aspects of entomology.
- (b) to gather, disseminate and record knowledge of all identifiable Australian insect species.
- (c) to compile a comprehensive list of all Victorian insect species.
- (d) to bring together in a congenial but scientific atmosphere all persons interested in entomology.

## MEETINGS

The Society's meetings are held at Melbourne Museum, downstairs at Infozone, Carlton, Melbourne: Melway reference Map 2B J10 at 8 p.m. on the third Friday of even months, with the possible exception of the December meeting which may be held earlier. Lectures by guest speakers or members are a feature of many meetings at which there is ample opportunity for informal discussion between members with similar interests. Forums are also conducted by members on their own particular interest so that others may participate in discussions. Tea and coffee facilities available at club meetings.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Ordinary Member	\$20.00 (overseas members \$22)
Country Member	\$16.00 (Over 100 km from GPO Melbourne)
Student Member	\$12.00
Associate Member	\$ 5.00 (No News Bulletin)

Associate Members, resident at the same address as, and being immediate relatives of an ordinary Member, do not automatically receive the Society's publications but in all other respects rank as ordinary Members.

Cover design by Alan Hyman.

**Cover illustration:** The pale Sun Moth, *Synemon selene* Klug, is an endangered species restricted to perennial grassland dominated by *Austrodanthonia* in Western Victoria. It is now extinct in SA, and was presumed extinct in Vic. until its rediscovery, in February 1991, by the late Frank Noelker and Fabian Douglas. The Victorian Populations are parthenogenetic with all specimens comprising females, a most unusual trait in the Castniidae. Illustration by Michael F. Braby.

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING, 12th DECEMBER 2003

Meeting opened 8.05 pm.

**Present:** K. Dunn, B. Johnson, R McMahon, P. Marriot, D. Stewart, R. Vagi, K. Walker, G. Weeks

**Apologies:** I. Endersby, J. Tinetti

**Minutes:** Minutes of the last meeting were accepted.  
M: P. Carwardine, S: P. Marriot

### Treasurer's Report:

Account balances are:

General account: \$6316

Le Souef account: \$3905

\$ 20.00 donation to the Scout Association for use of facilities at Gilwell Park.

### Editor's report:

The Victorian Entomologist Bulletin has published its first colour plates in the December 2003 edition. It is hoped that more may follow, but would mean higher costs to the society.

### General business:

- Talk for February 2004 meeting will be Insect Behaviour, presented by I. Endersby.
- K. Dunn suggested that members might like to supply and present miscellaneous insect images to fill spaces in any future general meetings.

### Speakers:

K. Dunn showed film of the Island of Yap showing customs, people and, in particular, the butterflies of the island. P. Marriot showed slide of Tiger Moths – Lepidoptera: Arctiidae. R. McMahon showed slides of various insects from Woodlands Historic Park (near Melbourne Airport), the Plenty Valley and the Lara – Mt. Rothwell area (near the You Yangs).

Meeting closed 9.40 pm.

No council meeting was held for January 2004.

Kelvyn Dunn gave a 30 minute video presentation and talk of the butterflies of Yap Proper, an island of relative traditional culture in the Federated States of Micronesia, and renowned for its giant stone money. Kelvyn reported at least 14 butterfly species flying during his wet season visit in July 2003. Of these, 11 were 'captured' on video, photographed in agroforest, wastelands and mangrove ecotone.

Females of a common swallowtail, *Papilio polytes* were shown inspecting and ovipositing on *Citrus* in dense agroforest. The female swallowtails were male-like (female form 'cyrus') similar to those seen on Guam, but unlike those of the same species seen previously in SE Asia, which show marked sexual dimorphism. Swallowtail males fed at mud soaks, and snakeweed (*Stachytarpheta*) bordering village roads. Males of *Catopsilia pyranthe* were shown seeking shade beneath leaves during very hot weather. Close-ups of feeding adults included *Danaus plexippus*, *D. affinis*, *Hypolimnas bolina*, and *Junonia orithya* - all of which were abundant near Chamorro Bay, Colonia. Other behaviors depicted included a twilight, territorial altercation of *Melanitis leda*, basking *Euchrysops eneus* and *Appias ada*, a *Eurema hecabe* sheltering after a brief cloudburst, and mating pairs of *Zizina otis*. Other insects shown included a common red

dragonfly and a grasshopper - Kelvyn remarked on the general lack of singing insects evident in the forests of this atoll compared to mainland Asia and Australia.

**Six frames from the Yap video:**

**Figure 1.** *Danaus affinis* male feeding in swampy agroforest-mangrove ecotone (Balabaat 5/7/03 at 1700h YAPT); **Figure 2.** *Hyalininas bolina* female - the usual female form seen in Yap, (Chamorro Bay 4/7/03 at 1730h YAPT); **Figure 3 & 4** *Junonia orithya*: (Chamorro Bay 4/7/03) a male basking (1650h YAPT) and a female perched (1720h YAPT); **Figures 5 & 6** giant stone money and Kelvyn at Balabaat village (9/7/03).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6

Records of longhorned beetles (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) and associated insects reared from *Eucalyptus spp.* in Tasmania.

R. Bashford

Forestry Tasmania  
dick.bashford@forestrytas.com.au

### Introduction.

During the winter months, over a period of several years, sets of *Eucalyptus spp.* trees were felled, set up on stumps, and left in position for colonisation by timber insects over the spring/summer months. Following colonisation the logs were cut into billets and placed in cages within an outdoor insectary for subsequent emergence. Logs from a total of fifteen *Eucalyptus* species were utilised and twenty-one species of long-horned beetles emerged. Associated predators, parasitoids and other wood-borer insects are also recorded.

### Collection sites and Methods.

Trees and sites were selected on an opportunistic basis during other project work around Tasmania. Fifteen species of *Eucalyptus* were used from eight sites (Table 1). Trees up to 40-cm diameter (DBHOB) were cut in late winter with crowns retained, and the butt placed on the stump to prevent waterlogging of the bole. Logs were left over the spring and summer months for attack by timber insects. In late winter the trees were cut into two-metre long billets, transferred to Hobart, and individual logs placed in wire mesh cages in an outside insectary. Three billets were taken from each tree. Cages were checked for emergence on a weekly basis over a two-year period following billet collection. Emerging specimens were mounted and incorporated into the Tasmanian Forest Insect Collection.

### Results.

A total of 135 billets from 45 trees were held in the insectary for emergence of colonising insects over a period of five years. Table 2 lists the species of timber insects and associates emerging from each *Eucalyptus* species. All species of eucalypt except *E. coccifera* had at least one emergent cerambycid species. The parasite and predator complex is similar to that associated with *Epithora dorsalis* (Bashford 1994) but most of these species appear to be absent at high altitude or high rainfall sites in north west Tasmania.

Table 1: Number of trees of each *Eucalyptus* species from each site in Tasmania.

Site	Map reference	<i>Eucalyptus</i> species														
		<i>E. obliqua</i>	<i>E. amygdalina</i>	<i>E. dalmatina</i>	<i>E. viminalis</i>	<i>E. ovata</i>	<i>E. sieberi</i>	<i>E. phoenicoptera</i>	<i>E. delegatensis</i>	<i>E. leucoxylon</i>	<i>E. glochidion</i>	<i>E. nitida</i>	<i>E. coccifera</i>	<i>E. regnans</i>	<i>E. nitens</i>	<i>E. johnsonii</i>
Woodsdale	42°29'S 147°34'E	2	2		3	1					1					
Bicheno	41°38'S 148°14'E	1	1				2				1					
Arthur River	41°10'S 144°54'E	1										2				
Arve Valley	43°08'S 146°45'E	1										2	2	2		2
Maydena	42°45'S 146°37'E							1								2
Mount Connection	42°02'S 147°46'E			1	2			3	1	1						
Tooms Lake	42°14'S 147°48'E	2	1	1				1		1						
Tower Hill	41°32'S 147°55'E	1			1	1	1									
	Total trees	8	4	2	6	2	3	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

Table 2: Records of Tasmanian cerambycids and associates reared from *Eucalyptus* species.

Insect species	Family	Eucalypt host														
		<i>E. obliqua</i>	<i>E. amygdalina</i>	<i>E. dalrymptiana</i>	<i>E. viminalis</i>	<i>E. ovata</i>	<i>E. sieberi</i>	<i>E. pulchella</i>	<i>E. delegatensis</i>	<i>E. tenuestrigata</i>	<i>E. globulus</i>	<i>E. nitida</i>	<i>E. coerulea</i>	<i>E. regnans</i>	<i>E. nitens</i>	<i>E. johnsonii</i>
<b>WOODBORERS</b>																
<i>Aphneope quadrimaculator</i> Poll	Cerambycidae											x				
<i>Atesta tasmanica</i> Gahan	Cerambycidae	x			x					x					x	
<i>Callidiopis scutellaris</i> (Fabricius)	Cerambycidae	x	x		x		x	x	x	x						
<i>Coptocercus rubripes</i> (Boisduval)	Cerambycidae	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					
<i>Epithora dorsalis</i> (Macleay)	Cerambycidae	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					
<i>Ilesthesis cingulata</i> (Kirby)	Cerambycidae	x								x	x					
<i>Homaemota walkeri</i> Gahan	Cerambycidae								x							
<i>Phacodes obscurus</i> (Fabricius)	Cerambycidae										x				x	
<i>Phoracantha mastersi</i> Pascoe	Cerambycidae	x			x						x					
<i>Phoracantha superans</i> (Pascoe)	Cerambycidae				x											
<i>Phyltaenodes pustulosus</i> Newman	Cerambycidae		x													
<i>Pytheus</i> TFIC sp 01	Cerambycidae	x						x							x	
<i>Sculecobrotus westwoodi</i> Hope	Cerambycidae															
<i>Stenocentrus suturalis</i> (Olivier)	Cerambycidae	x			x											
<i>Tessaromma sericans</i> (Erichson)	Cerambycidae	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
<i>Tessaromma undatum</i> Newman	Cerambycidae	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
<i>Toxeutes arcuatus</i> (Fabricius)	Cerambycidae	x				x	x								x	
<i>Iragocerus spencei</i> Hope	Cerambycidae		x													
<i>Uracanthus maleficus</i> Lea	Cerambycidae				x									x	x	
<i>Zoedia v-album</i> (Boisduval)	Cerambycidae								x							
<i>Zygocera canosa</i> (Erichson)	Cerambycidae	x	x													
<i>Pentanimus rhyncholiformis</i> (Wellaston)	Cossoninae	x		x							x		x			
<i>Platypus subgranosus</i> Schedl	Platypodinae											x				
<i>Platypus tuberculosus</i> Lea	Platypodinae					x										
<i>Xylion collaris</i> (Erichson)	Bostrichidae	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x					
<i>Xyloborus saxeseni</i> (Ratzeburg)	Scolytinae	x														
<i>Xyloborus truncatus</i> (Erichson)	Scolytinae										x					
<i>Xylobosca bispinosa</i> (Macleay)	Bostrichidae	x	x		x			x	x	x						
<b>PREDATORS</b>																
<i>Agrypnus pictipennis</i> (Candeze)	Elateridae	x														
<i>Agryptus</i> sp.	Elateridae		x													
<i>Blackburniella hilaris</i> (Westwood)	Cleridae	x			x											
<i>Cylindrus nigrinus</i> White	Cleridae	x			x						x					
<i>Deretaphus piceus</i> Germar	Bothrideridae	x							x	x						
<i>Eunatalis porcatus</i> (Fabricius)	Cleridae	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
<i>Lepidopteryx decorata</i> (Erichson)	Trogossidae	x														
<i>Lepidopteryx moniliata</i> (Blackburn)	Trogossidae	x														
<i>Tenerus abbreviatus</i> White	Cleridae	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
<i>Poorongus jugulatus</i> (Candeze)	Elateridae															
<b>DIPTERA</b>																
<i>Platytainia maculata</i> Macquart	Tachinidae	x		x	x	x		x	x							

PARASITOIDS											
Austrohelcon australianus (Kokuew)	Braconidae			x							
Doryctes sp.	Braconidae	x	x	x							
Gen Indet. Doryctinae	Braconidae	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Gen nr. Doryctes	Braconidae	x	x	x	x				x		
Gen nr. Doryctes sp 2	Braconidae	x	x	x	x		x			x	
Megalyra rufipes Erichson	Megalyridae	x	x								
Syngaster lepidus Brulle	Braconidae	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
Syngaster rubricepsis (Schnefelt)	Braconidae	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Syngaster sp 2	Braconidae	x	x	x		x	x			x	
Trichiohelcon phoracanthae (Frogatt)	Braconidae	x	x	x			x			x	
Austrohelcon australianus (Kokuew)	Braconidae			x							

## Discussion.

Two species of cerambycid reared in this study were also reared from *Acacia dealbata* billets in previous work using the same techniques. Bashford (1997) reared *Aphneope quadrimaculata* and *Tessaronnia undatum* from *Acacia dealbata* billets. *Stenocentrus suturalis* has been reared from *Pittosporum bicolor* in north west Tasmania and *Zygocera canosa* from *Acacia melanoxylon* and *Pinus radiata* (Bashford 1990). The other cerambycid species in this study seem to be confined to *Eucalyptus* hosts.

## References.

Bashford, R. 1990. Tasmanian forest insects and their host plants: Records from the Tasmanian Forestry Commission Insect Collection. Pgs 1-32. Forestry Commission, Tasmania.

Bashford, R. 1994. Life history and mortality of the longicorn *Epithora dorsalis* Macleay (Coleoptera : Cerambycidae) in Tasmania. Australian Entomologist 21(4): 125-136.

Bashford, R. 1997. Records of insects associated with *Acacia dealbata* Link, in Tasmania. Australian Entomologist 24(3): 109-115.

# The ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA Inc.



## EXCURSION TO GEMBROOK No. 2

**DATE:** Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th February 2004.

**TIME:** From 10 am Saturday until Sunday afternoon.

**PLACE:** Gilwell Park Scout Camp.

This is a follow-up of the October excursion to sample at a different time of the year.

**Please Note:** Collected specimens are to be used to make a voucher collection for retention at the Scout Park.

Gilwell Park is on the Gembrook - Launching Place Road, 5.2 km north of Gembrook (cnr of Main Street). Refer Melway maps 312 and 299 E1. It can also be reached via Launching Place on the Warburton Highway. Melway 287 F6. The entrance is on the left about 1.2 km after the end of the sealed road, labelled Gate No 4, Messmate Drive (opposite Gate 9). We will be staying at The Lodge.

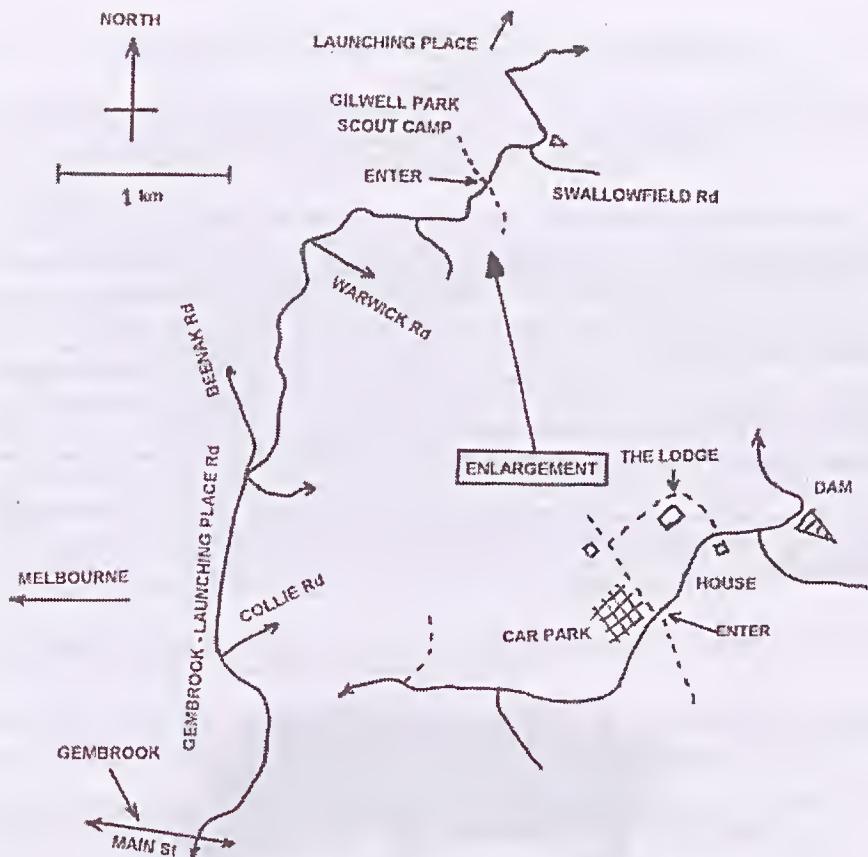
There are a small number of 2 bed bunk huts available and there are camping facilities. There is a kitchen (complete with cooking utensils, china & cutlery), showers and toilets. Bring your own food, drink, linen & blankets or sleeping bag. This excursion is meant as a night collecting excursion, however if you can only stay Saturday afternoon and evening, or Sunday morning, you will be welcome. Electric power is available, however if you have suitable collecting lights, please bring them with extension leads and other night collecting equipment.

If you intend to stay overnight, please book with Peter Carwardine 9571 8958 by Tuesday 24/2/04, leave name, number in party, and phone number. He can give information on purchasing UV lamps, if required. Reference to 'Sugaring' can be found on page 72 of *Vic. Ent.* vol 33 (5) October 2003.

The following images are from the November 2003 excursion to Gilwell Park Scout Camp.



Collecting at the U.V. light (Photo: David Stewart)



Ian Endersby identifying aquatics (Photo: David Stewart)

## Mole Crickets

Terry Houston

Terry Houston, Senior Curator, Entomology, W.A. Museum.  
[Terry.Houston@museum.wa.gov.au](mailto:Terry.Houston@museum.wa.gov.au)

Have you been noticing any mole crickets lately that seem to be new to your area? If so, I'd be interested to communicate with you. Here's why: Over recent years, two species of mole crickets have been making their presence felt in Perth suburbia and some regional centres. Home-owners report the sudden appearance of numbers of the insects in their gardens and sometimes in their houses and swimming pools. The insects tunnel in their lawns, invade plant pots, or attract attention by their singing by dusk (many people mistaking the songs for frog calls). These two species are absent from older collections and are not known to occur in bushlands. Hence, I suspect that they are introduced from elsewhere – "but from where?" is the question. I have tentatively identified one I call the 'shiny black' species as *Gryllotalpa pluvialis* (Figure 1). This is a Queensland species and is present in suburbs of Brisbane. The second species I have denoted as 'matt brown', may be *G. australis* (Figure 2) from south-eastern Australia. I can provide digital images of these 'nuisance' species if you are interested to see what they look like. If anyone could send me specimens from their gardens in Melbourne or other population centre in Victoria, I would be most grateful.



Figure 1: *Gryllotalpa pluvialis*



Figure 2: *Gryllotalpa australis* ?

## Australia Journal of Entomology Volume 42 (4) 2003

The Australian Entomological Society publishes the *Australian Journal of Entomology* quarterly. The Entomological Society of Victoria is an affiliated society and publishes the contents of the Journal for the wider interest of its members.

### SYSTEMATICS

**M Biondi & P D'Alessandro:** Revision of the *Pepila fuscomaculata* species-group and description of four new species from Australia (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Alticinae).

**LG Cook:** *Apionomorpha gullanae* sp. n., an unusual new species of gall-inducing scale insect (Hemiptera: Eriococcidae).

**OD Seeman & HIF Nahrung:** *Parobia husbandi* gen. n., sp. n. (Acar: Podapolipidae): subelytral parasites of paropsine beetles (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae).

### ECOLOGY

**MFA Jallow & MP Zalucki:** Relationship between oviposition preference and offspring performance in Australian *Helicoverpa armigera* (Hübner) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

**S Mansfield, N Elias & JG Lytton-Hitchins:** Ants as egg predators of *Helicoverpa armigera* (Hübner) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) in Australian cotton crops.

**AA Canzano, RE Jones & JE Seymour:** Diapause termination in two species of tropical butterfly, *Euploea core* (Cramer) and *Euploea sylvester* (Fabricius) (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae).

**M Gissel Nielsen, K Christian & D Birkmose:** Carbon dioxide concentrations in the nests of the mud-dwelling mangrove ant *Polyrhachis sokolova* Forel (Hymenoptera: Formicidae).

### BEHAVIOUR

**KL Anderson, JE Seymour & R Rowe:** Influence of a dorsal trash-package on interactions between larvae of *Mallada signata* (Schneider) (Neuroptera: Chrysopidae).

**LB Ollivier, F Bonaeorso, M Aloysius & M Kasiki:** Flight movement of *Scapanes australis australis* (Boisduval) (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae) in Papua New Guinea: a radiotelemetry study.

### PLANT RESISTANCE

**AT Simmons, GM Gurr, D McGrath, III Nicol & PM Martin:** Trichomes of *Lycopersicon* spp. and their effect on *Myzus persicae* (Sulzer) (Hemiptera: Aphididae).

### THESIS SUMMARY

**KEC Brennan:** The successional response of spider communities following the multiple disturbances of mining and burning in Western Australian Jarrah forest.

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Compiled by R. McMahon

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UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY AWARDS 2004

*'Think Global, Act Local'*

### **NOMINATE NOW**

The Awards aim to recognise businesses, community groups, individuals, local governments, students and the media whose work serves to protect, manage or restore the environment.

**The Major Award Categories are**

***Excellence in Marine and Coastal Management*** - Best company, community or individual that has demonstrated excellence in the conservation and management of marine, coastal or estuarine environments.

***Excellence in Water Management*** - Best company, community or individual that has demonstrated excellence in the conservation, recycling and use of water, in either rural or urban regions.

***Triple Bottom Line Award*** – for the best environmental, social and commercial best practice program for business.

***Business Enterprise Awards Category*** - for the best specific environmental initiative; and the environmental best practice program.

***Community / Individual Awards Category*** - for the best community based environmental project or initiative; and the special award for outstanding service to the environment.

***Local Government Awards Category*** - for excellence in overall environmental management; best specific environmental initiative.

***Education / School Award Category*** - for the best school based project exploring environmental themes or issues.

***Media Awards for Environmental Reporting*** - for the best print submission; the best radio segment; and the best television segment, which has been published, broadcast or telecast in Australia.

**Nominations close 5pm, Wednesday 12th May 2004.**

*The complete guidelines, entry criteria and nomination form can be found at the UNAA website*

[www.unaavictoria.com.au](http://www.unaavictoria.com.au)

Or telephone (03) 9482 3655, fax (03) 9482 5118, email UNAA.VIC@bigpond.com

## OFFICE BEARERS

**PRESIDENT:** *David Stewart* P.O. Box 2152, Rosebud Plaza, 3939.  
ph. 0419 875 977 *stewa27@hotmail.com*

**VICE PRESIDENT:** *Peter Marriot* 8 Adam Street, Bentleigh, ph. 9557 7756 (AH)

**HON SECRETARY:** *Jan Tinetti*, 138 Noone Street, Clifton Hill, 3068. ph. 9486 2865 (AH)

**HON TREASURER:** *Ian Endersby*, 56 Looker Road, Montmorency 3094. ph. 9435 4781 (AH)

**HON EDITOR:** *Ray McMahon*, P.O. Box 549, Tullamarine, Vic. 3043.  
*rtnmcmahon@students.latrobe.edu.au*

**EXCURSIONS SEC:** *Peter Carwardine*, 5/154 Grange Road, Carnegie 3163.  
ph. 9571 8958 (AH)

**PUBLIC OFFICER:** *Ian Endersby*, 56 Looker Road, Montmorency 3094. ph. 9435 4781 (AH)

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:** *Dr Allan Kellehear*, "Sunnybank", Glenluee  
R.S.D. Castlemaine 3451

**WEBMASTER:** *Daniel Dobrosak*, 66 Wiltonvale Avenue, Hoppers Crossing, 3029  
ph 8635 7431 (BII) ph 9749 1476 (AH). *suturalis@yahoo.com*

**COUNCILLORS:** *Dr. Ken Walker*,

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE *VICTORIAN ENTOMOLOGIST*

The Society welcomes contributions of articles, papers or notes pertaining to any aspect of entomology for publication in this Bulletin. Contributions are not restricted to members but are invited from all who have an interest. Material submitted should be responsible and original. The Editor reserves the right to have articles refereed. Statements and opinions expressed are the responsibility of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Society.

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Contributions may be typed on A4 paper or *preferably* sent to the Hon. editor on an **IBM** formatted disk in *Microsoft Word for Windows*, *WordPerfect* or any recognised word processor software with an enclosed hard copy. Contributions may also be E-mailed to Internet address: *rtnmcmahon@students.latrobe.edu.au*

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## DIARY OF COMING EVENTS

### Friday 20 February General Meeting at Melbourne Museum

I. Endersby will present a talk on Insect Behaviour

D. Stewart and P. Marriot may discuss Parasitism of the Vine Moth:  
*Phalaenoides glycine* (time allowing)

### Sat & Sun 28 - 29 February Club Excursion to Gembrook

Friday 19 March 6:30 Council Meeting

Scientific names contained in this document are *not* intended for permanent scientific record, and are not published for the purposes of nomenclature within the meaning of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*, Article 8(b). Contributions may be refereed, and authors alone are responsible for the views expressed.

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